Sl. No.	Details of Irregularity	Sl. No.	Name of Officials Involved
44.	Irregularities in the award of contract to M/s. V. V. Construction by Super Bazar to construct "Sant Longowal Tower" in Rajendra Place.		Under investigation.

Entry of vanaspati ghee from Nepal

153. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that very large quantity of Vanaspati ghee enters into India from Nepal through land route;

(b) whether newspaper reports have suggested that this product is not fit for human consumption; and

(c) what is the reaction of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) There has been significant import of vanaspati from Nepal.

(b) Some samples of imported vanaspati from Nepal failed in respect of certain requirements as prescribed under the Vegetable Oils Products (Regulation) Order, 1998/Prevention of Food Adulteration Act and Rules, 1955.

(c) This issue was taken up with His Majesty's Government of Nepal (HMGN) at the Indo-Nepal Inter- Governmental Committee (IGC) Meeting New Delhi on 10th to 12th December, 1999. The Nepalese side was requested to consider increasing the duty on export of vanaspati from Nepal to India and also introduce quantitative restrictions. The Nepalese side stated that it would implement the treaty of trade in its letter and spirit.

Separately, the Health Ministry has instructed the Port Health Authorities and other concerned for compulsory testing of all food articles.

Divesting PDS of Kerosene

154. SHRI C. M. IBRAHIM: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to stop allocating Kerosene to ration-card holders with LPG-Double-cylinder connection, to check adulteration of Kerosene with petrol and diesel and to streamline its distribution;

(b) if so, the quantum of Kerosene likely to be saved and divested from Public Distribution System thereby; and

(c) the steps taken and being taken to ensure that genuine consumers of Kerosene, without LPG connections, are not deprived of their supplies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN): (a) to (c) Kerosene is an allocated product and the annual allocation is made by Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas to various States/UTs. The distribution of kerosene and its monitoring within the State is the responsibility of the concerned State Government. As PDS kerosene and LPG are subsidised Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has insisted upon the State Governments to identify the Ration Card Holders having LPG connections and to discontinue the supply of kerosene to them under PDS.